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Section 8

West Desert Basin

Utah State Water Plan

WATER FUNDING PROGRAMS

8.1 INTRODUCTION

This section briefly describes many of the state, federal and local funding programs available to plan and implement water resources projects in the West Desert Basin. Additional information can be found in the *State Water Plan* (1990), Section 3, "Introduction," and Section 8, "State and Federal Water Resource Funding Programs." More specific information regarding specific agency programs can also be found in other sections of the State Water Plan.

8.2 BACKGROUND

Over the years, citizens of Utah have spent millions of their own dollars to develop water resources. In Utah's early years, individuals, private irrigation companies and the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints worked together to develop water facilities. Today, private citizens still play an important role in funding water development projects. The federal and state governments have developed numerous programs which make grants and low-interest loan money available for water development. Many of these funding programs require up-front cost-sharing from individuals, groups or entities receiving benefits from the projects or complete repayment of revolving loan funds.

There is a continuing need for water-related projects. In the past, significant funding assistance has been made available through federal programs. In today's political climate, limited federal funding is still available but is becoming more scarce and carries with it restrictive federal regulations and guidelines.

There has been an increasing need for more local and state funding to offset the loss of federal assistance. More details on federal funding is included in Section 8 of the *State Water Plan* (1990) and in Section 16 of this document.

Since the turn of the century, some state funds have been available to construct water development projects. These were relatively minor amounts until 1947 when the state legislature created the Utah Water and Power Board and established the Revolving Construction Fund. Since then, state funding programs have been established under various boards, commissions and committees.

Population expansion and cost increases have required project sponsors to seek additional funds from other sources. In the past, these state and federal programs have been used to fund projects in the West Desert Basin. The extent of this funding in recent years is shown in Tables 8-1 and 8-2.

Water development includes direct and indirect benefits, not only to the project owners and developers, but also to the surrounding communities and society as a whole. To derive the benefits of the water it takes money to develop this liquid asset. Fortunately there are various sources of funding for water development.

Table 8-1
STATE FUNDING PROGRAMS

| Entity/Program | Contact Agency | Purpose | Type |
|--|-----------------------------------|---|---|
| Board of Water Resources Revolving Construction Fund Cities Water Loan Fund Conservation & Development Fund Dam Safety | Division of Water Resources | Small irrigation and culinary projects Municipal culinary water systems Large water improvement projects Stabilize and repair dams | Loans Loans Loans Loans & Grants |
| Community Impact Fund Board Permanent Community Impact Fund Disaster Relief Board Fund | Division of Community Development | Schools, roads, medical, & water improvements County or municipal flood repair | Grants & Loans Grants |
| Community Dev. Block Grants Policy Board Community Development Block Grants Program | Division of Community Development | Improved living environment for small communities and counties | Grants |
| Drinking Water Board Financial Construction Program | Division of Drinking Water | Drinking water facilities | Loans |
| Water Quality Board Federal Commission Grants Wastewater Treatment Facilities Financial Assistance Program | Division of Water Quality | Wastewater treatment facilities Wastewater treatment facilities | Loans Grants |
| Utah Soil Conservation Commission Agricultural Resource Development Loans | Department of Agriculture | Improvements of cropland and non-federal rangeland & watershed improvements | Loans Grants |
| Board of Parks and Recreation Land & Water Conservation Fund | Division of Parks and Recreation | Swimming, boating, and other recreation-related facilities | 50-50 Cost-Sharing Grants |
| Wildlife Board Wallup/Breaux Bill | Division of Wildlife Resources | Sport fishery management and boating access | Grants |

| FEDERAL FUNDING PROGRAMS | | | |
|---|---|--|----------------|
| Administering Agency | Program | Purpose | Type |
| Department of Agriculture Farm Service Agency | Agricultural Conservation Program | Soil, water, and energy conservation. | Grants |
| | Emergency Conservation Program | Rehabilitation of farmland damaged by wind, floods or other natural disasters. | Grants |
| | Conservation Reserve Program | Reduce erosion and maintain wetlands. | Grants |
| Rural Development | Rural Development | Water supply and wastewater disposal. | Grants & Loans |
| | Resource Conservation & Development | Multiple purpose water & related-land conservation and other facilities. | Loans |
| Natural Resources Conservation Service | Watershed Protection & Flood Prevent. | Flood control, and water development | Grants |
| | Environment Quality Incentives Program | Environmental quality improvement | Grants |
| | Resource Conservation & Development | Multiple purpose water & related-land conservation | Grants |
| | Emergency Watershed Program | Natural Disasters | Grants |
| Department of the Army Corps of Engineers | Civil Works | Flood control, water supply & recreation | Cost Sharing |
| | Ecosystem Restoration | All environmentally related projects | Cost Sharing |
| | Flood Plain Management Services | Flood plain delineation | Grants |
| | Continuing Authorities Program | Flood protection. | Cost Sharing |
| | Emergency Activities | Flood protection. | Cost Sharing |
| Department of the Interior Bureau of Reclamation | Investigations Program | Water storage/delivery & related purposes. | Loans |
| | Loan Programs | Small multiple-purpose water developments. | Loans |
| Department of Housing and Urban Development | Community Development Block Grant Program | Water resources planning & development. | Grants |
| Federal Emergency Management Agency | Presidential Declared Disaster Flood Plain Management | Flood damage mitigation. Acquisition of structures in flood plains. | Grants |
| | Nonpoint Source Program | Water Quality | Grants |

8.3 STATE WATER FUNDING PROGRAMS

There are eight state entities with funding programs (see Table 8-1) available to assist local communities for various community development projects. These funding programs include both loan and grant monies. Although not all of these funding programs were created specifically for water development, each can, and have been applied to water-related development projects. Though these programs are generally targeted for diverse purposes, there are cases where more than one program can assist with a particular project. These state funding programs are briefly described in Table 8-3.

Drinking Water Board: Through the 1996 reauthorized Safe Drinking Water Act, the Drinking Water Board is receiving funding to establish a Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (SRF). The purpose of the fund is to ensure all drinking water systems within the state are capable of maintaining and protecting the supply of safe drinking water at an affordable cost. The Drinking Water Board expects to receive grants, a portion of which will go into

the SRF for project constructions. The amounts for project construction are: \$9.76 million in 1998, \$6.0 million in 1999, \$6.5 million in 2000, and between \$6.0 and \$6.5 million every year through 2003, available for project funding. The state is expected to provide an additional 20 percent of each appropriation as matching cost-share funds. In addition to the project funds, the Drinking Water Board has a portion of its federal appropriations available for regional water system planning.

8.4 FEDERAL WATER FUNDING PROGRAMS

Federal water-related grant and loan programs exist within various agencies in the Departments of Agriculture, Army, Interior and the Environmental Protection Agency. Funding for these programs has fluctuated but with a general decline in recent years.

General funding programs are still a viable source of financial assistance. However, environmental protection rather than water development is typically the focus of these programs. These programs are briefly described in Table 8-4.

Table 8-3
STATE WATER-RELATED FUNDING EXPENDITURES
(\$1000)

| | Box Elder County | Tooele County | Juab County | Millard County | Beaver County | Davis County* | Total Project | Time Period |
|--|------------------|---------------|-------------|----------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|-------------|
| | Grants | Loans | Grants | Loans | Grants | Loans | Grants | Loans |
| Board of Water Resources | | | | | | | | |
| Revolving Construction Fund | - | 1,440 | - | 2,331 | - | 48 | - | 0 |
| Cities Water Loan Fund | - | 60 | - | 433 | 0 | 0 | - | 0 |
| Conservation & Development Fund | - | 0 | - | 8,880 | 0 | 0 | - | 1,804 |
| Dam Safety | - | 0 | - | 0 | 0 | 0 | - | 9,168 |
| Community Impact Fund Board | | | | | | | | |
| Permanent Community Impact Fund | 0 | - | 0 | - | 0 | - | 0 | 0 |
| Community Dev. Block Grants Policy Board | | | | | | | | |
| Community Development Block Grants Program | 396* | - | 1,371 | - | 0 | - | 0 | - |
| Drinking Water Board | | | | | | | | |
| Financial Assistance Program | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Water Quality Board | | | | | | | | |
| EPA 314 Clean Lakes Program | - | 0 | - | 0 | 0 | - | 0 | - |
| Federal Construction Grants | - | 0 | - | 0 | 0 | - | 0 | - |
| Wastewater Treatment Facilities Financial Assistance Program | - | 0 | - | 11,298 | 0 | 0 | - | 11,298 |
| Utah Soil Conservation Commission | | | | | | | | |
| Agricultural Resource Development Loans | - | 179 | - | 203 | - | 373 | - | 0 |
| Board of Parks and Recreation | | | | | | | | |
| Land & Water Conservation Fund | 46 | - | 136 | - | - | - | 6 | 2,400 |
| River Enhancement Grant Program | - | - | 25 | - | - | - | - | 5,277 |
| OHV Motorized Trail Matching Grant Projects | - | - | 25 | - | - | - | - | - |
| Wildlife Board | | | | | | | | |
| Wallup/Breax Bill | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Totals | 442 | 1,679 | 15,557 | 23,145 | 0 | 399 | 0 | 48,600 |

* Includes all of Box Elder County [†] Antelope Island is in Davis County

Table 8-4
FEDERAL WATER-RELATED FUNDING EXPENDITURES

| Funding Agency Program | Box Elder County | | Tooele County | | Juab County | | Millard County | | Beaver County | | Period |
|--|----------------------|-------|---------------|-------|------------------------|-------|------------------------|-------|---------------|-------|-----------|
| | Grants | Loans | Grants | Loans | Grants | Loans | Grants | Loans | Grants | Loans | |
| Department of Agriculture | | | | | | | | | | | 1950-1998 |
| Farm Service Agency | 60,000 | 0 | 21,000 | 0 | 10,000 | 0 | 15,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | |
| Rural Development | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | |
| Natural Resources Conservation Service | 1,062,000 | 0 | 221,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | |
| Department of the Army | | | | | | | | | | | 1997 |
| Corps of Engineers | 0 | - | 0 | - | 0 | - | 0 | - | 0 | - | |
| Civil Works | 0 | - | 0 | - | 0 | - | 0 | - | 0 | - | |
| Emergency Works | 20,000 | - | 20,000 | - | 0 | - | 0 | - | 0 | - | |
| Continuing Authority | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Department of the Interior | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Bureau of Reclamation | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | |
| Federal Emergency Management Agency | 327,490 ^a | - | 1,249,200 | - | 3,049,630 ^a | 0 | 1,317,130 ^a | 0 | 0 | 0 | |
| Environmental Protection Agency^b | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Total | 1,469,490 | | 1,511,200 | | 3,059,630 | | 1,332,130 | | | | |

a: This is a countywide total

b: Funds are transmitted through the Department of Environmental Quality